

The ability to soar™

The History and Evolution of Anixter Center

In 1918, 13 women founded an orphanage as a promise to their friend who had lost all but one of her children to the influenza epidemic. They promised to care for him, and from this promise came the Douglas Park Jewish Day and Night Nursery.

Thirty-seven years later, the organization came to realize that the most critical need in Chicago had changed. It was at this juncture that the board made a strategic move and created a new mission—to serve people with disabilities.







A division of Anixter Center